

Classic Tales

Sleeping Beauty



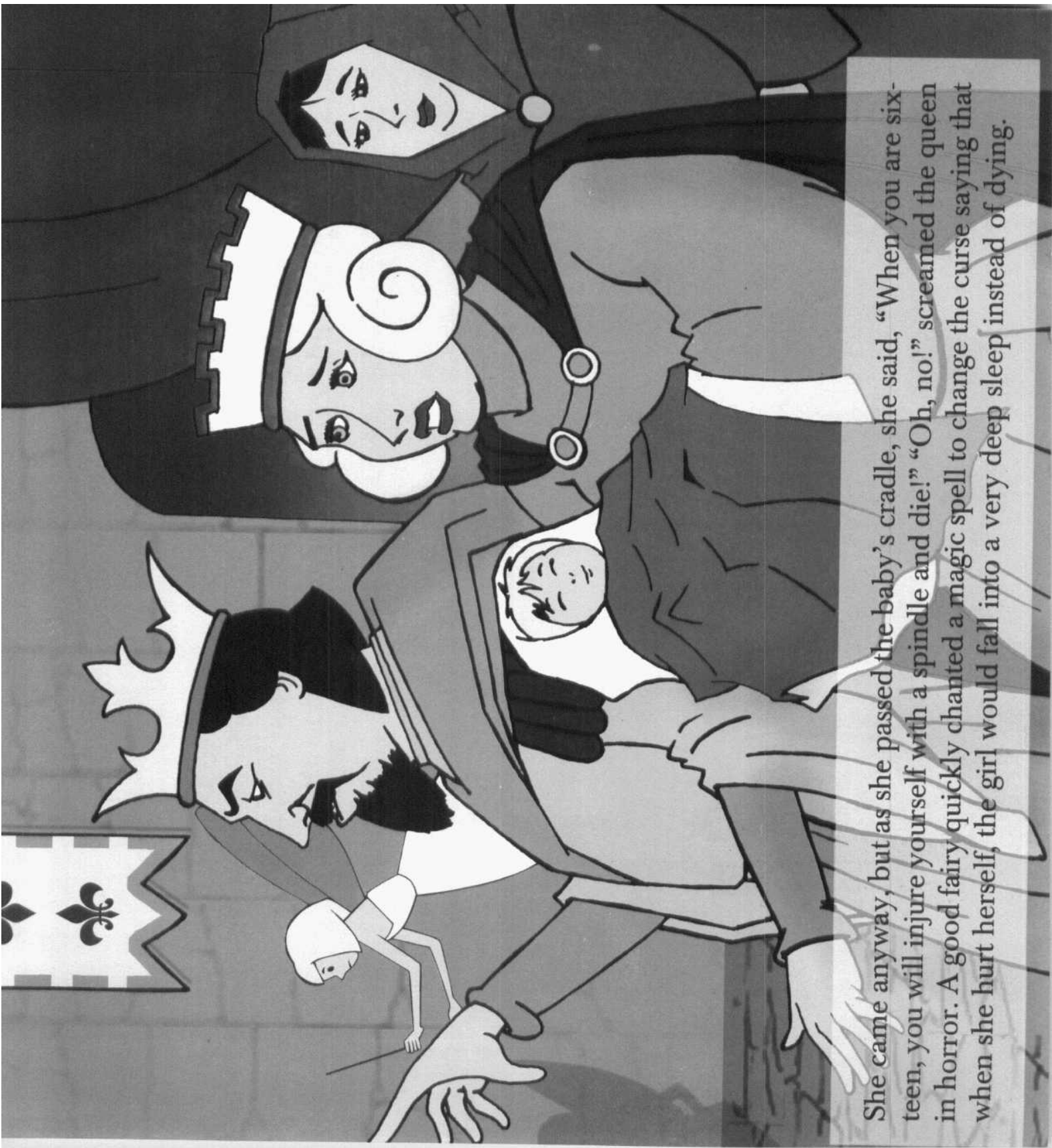
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By: Kareem Metwali

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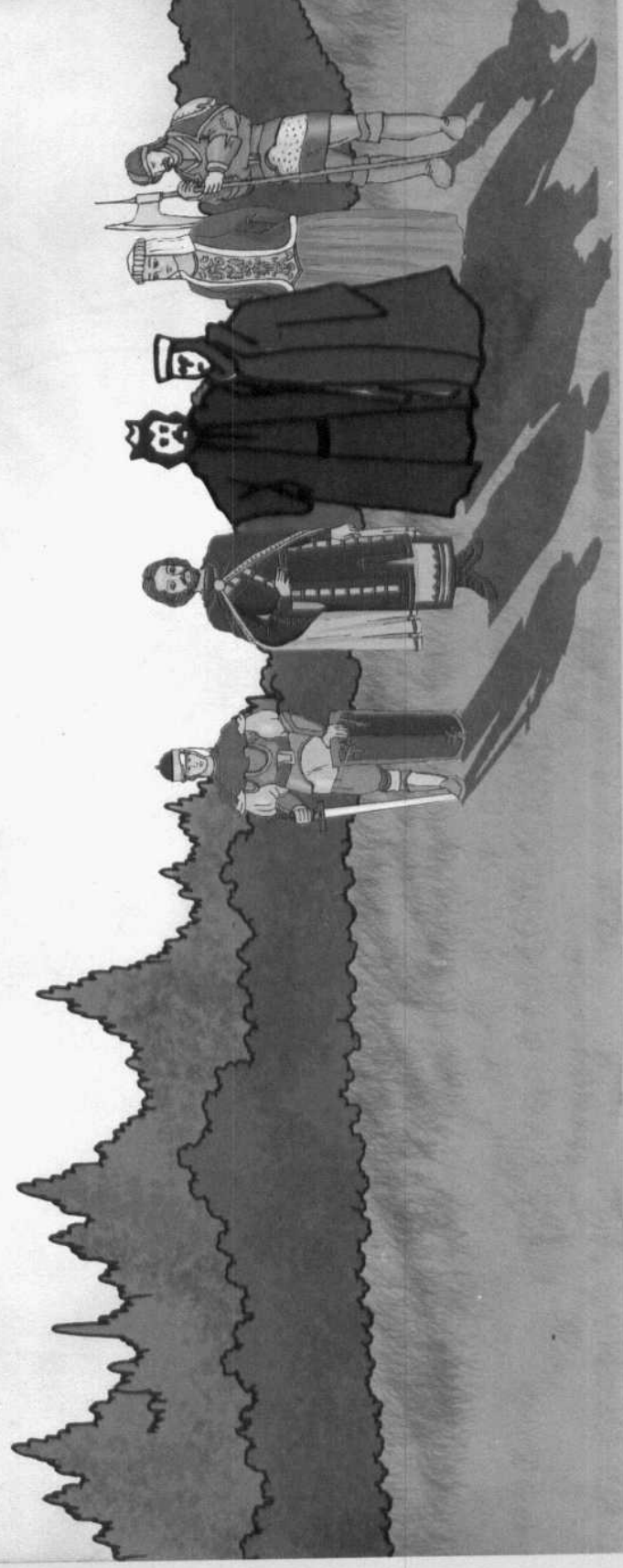
Once upon a time, there was a queen who had a beautiful baby daughter. She asked all the fairies in the kingdom to the birth party, but unfortunately forgot to invite one of them, who was a bit of a witch as well.

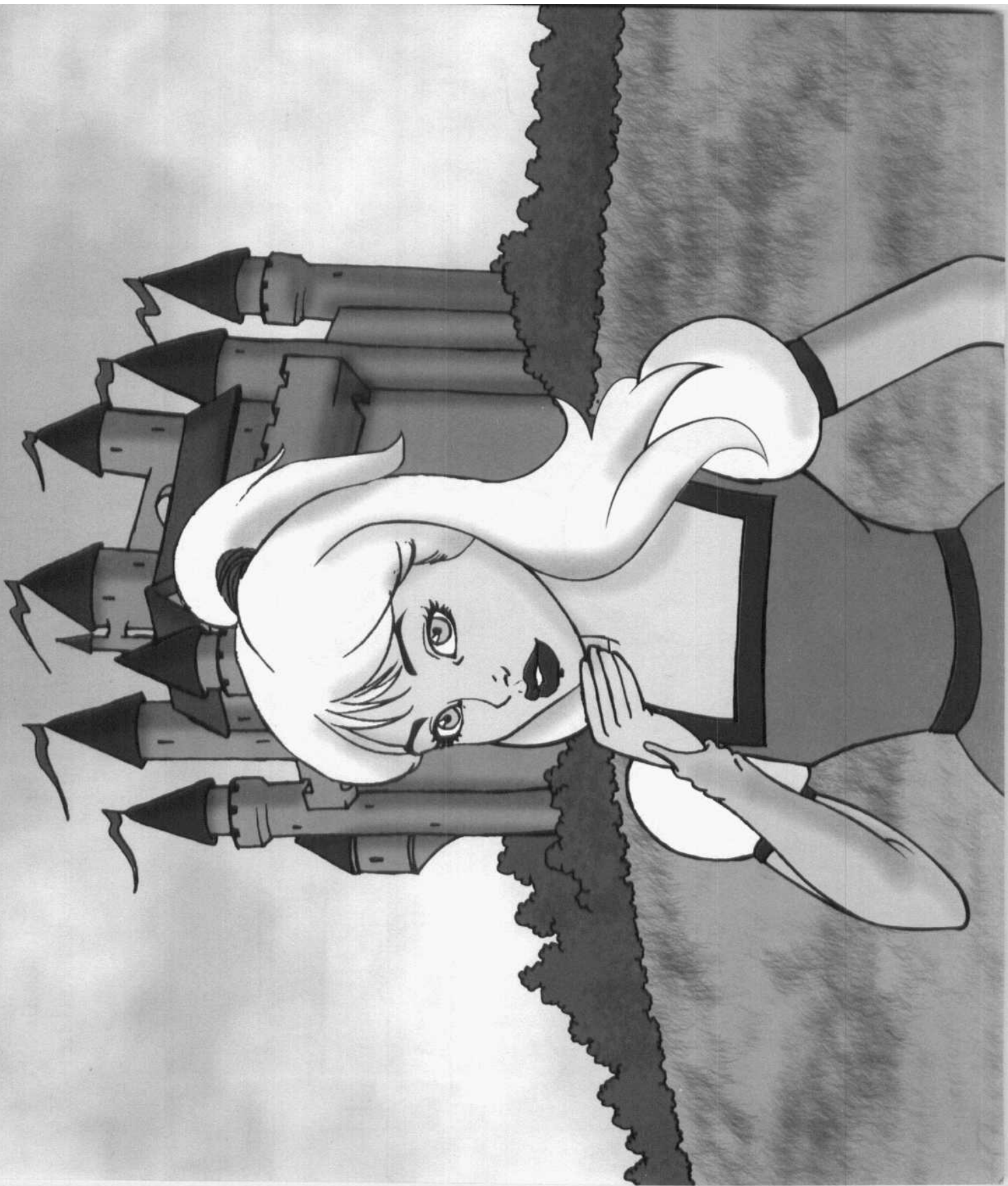




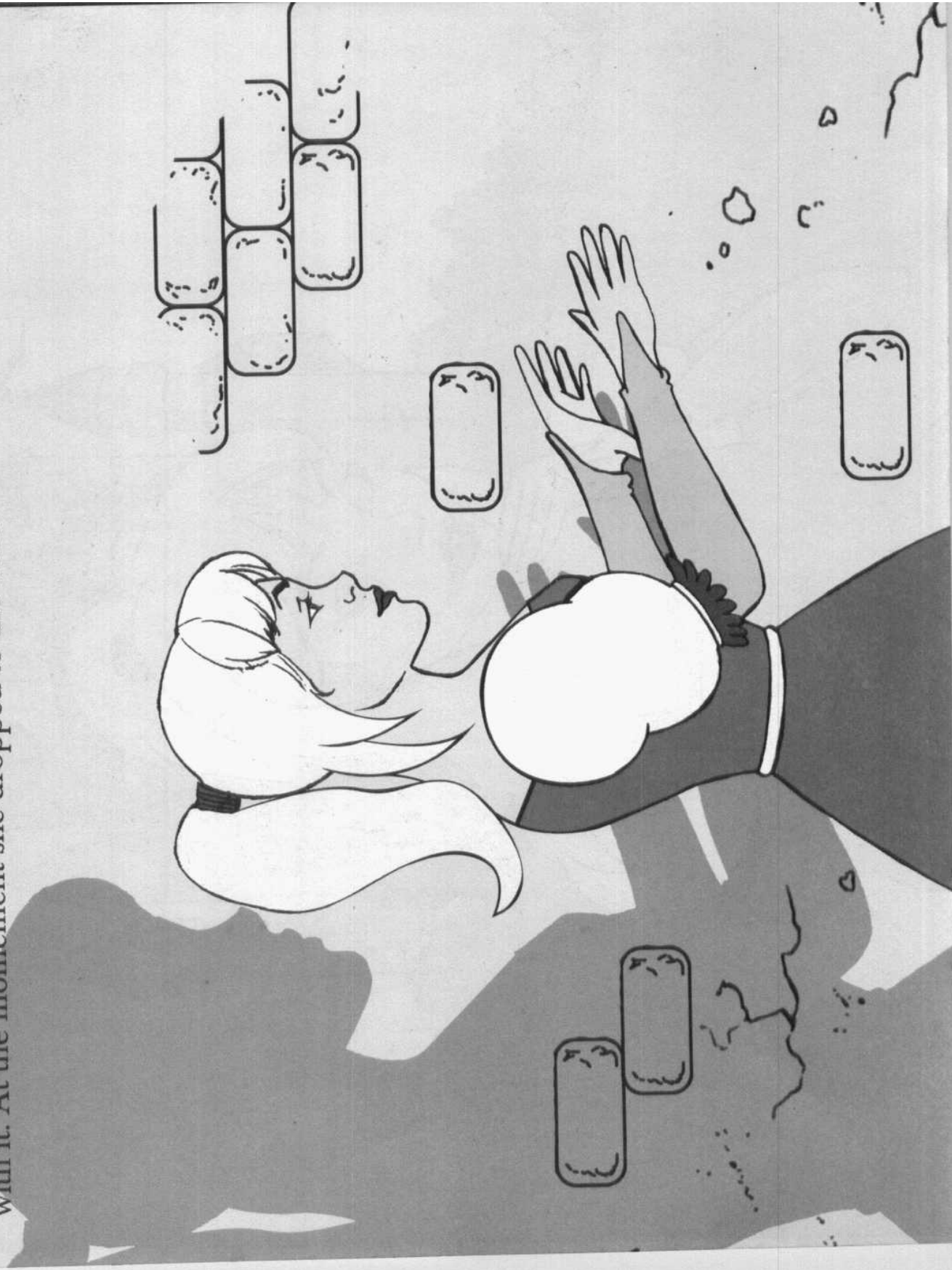
She came anyway, but as she passed the baby's cradle, she said, "When you are sixteen, you will injure yourself with a spindle and die!" "Oh, no!" screamed the queen in horror. A good fairy quickly chanted a magic spell to change the curse saying that when she hurt herself, the girl would fall into a very deep sleep instead of dying.

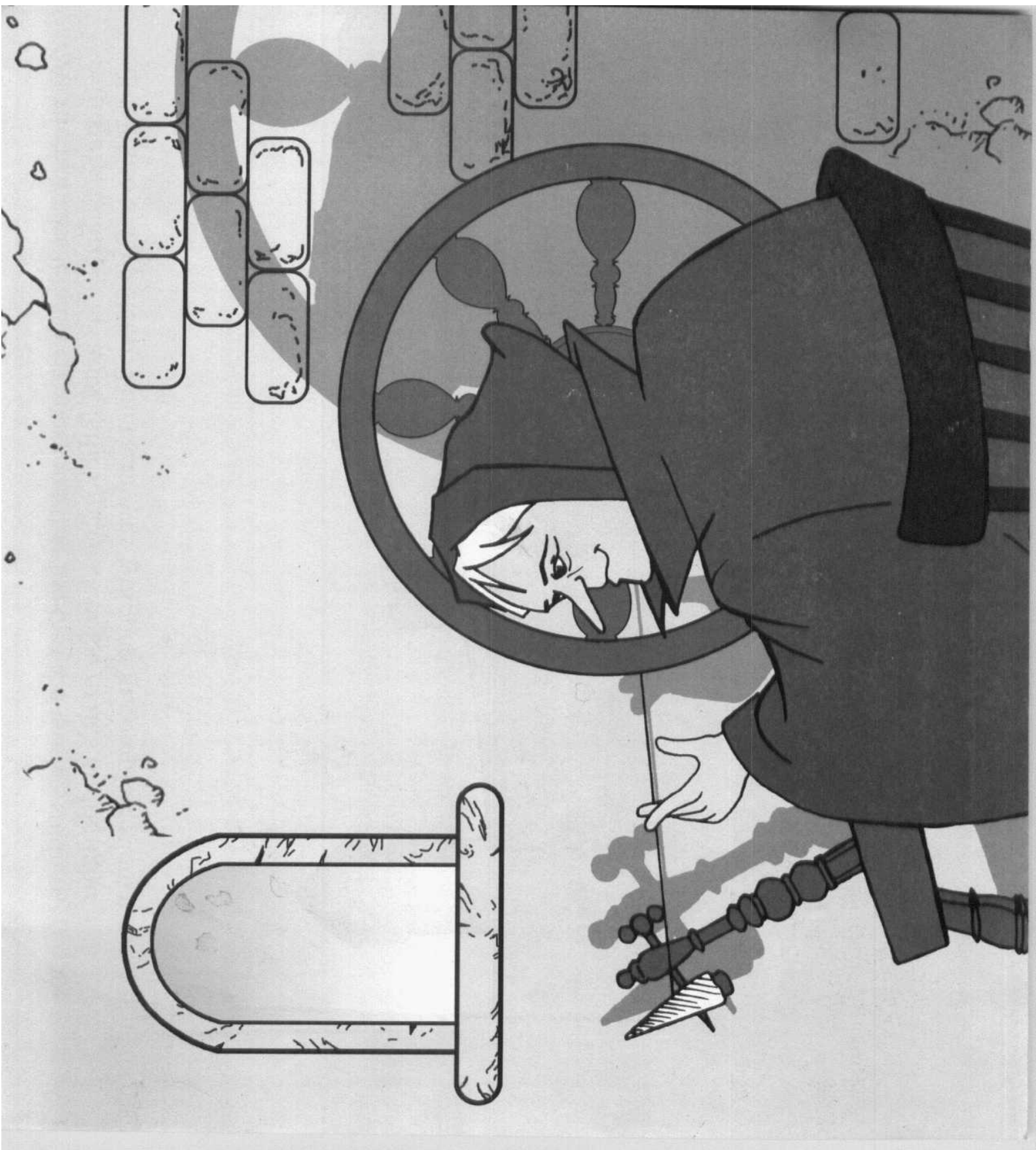
The king and the queen were very terrified and the king gave orders to burn all spin-
dles in the kingdom. The years went by and the little princess grew and became the
most beautiful girl in the whole kingdom. On her sixteenth birthday, while her par-
ents were away, the princess wanted to play and move through the castle.



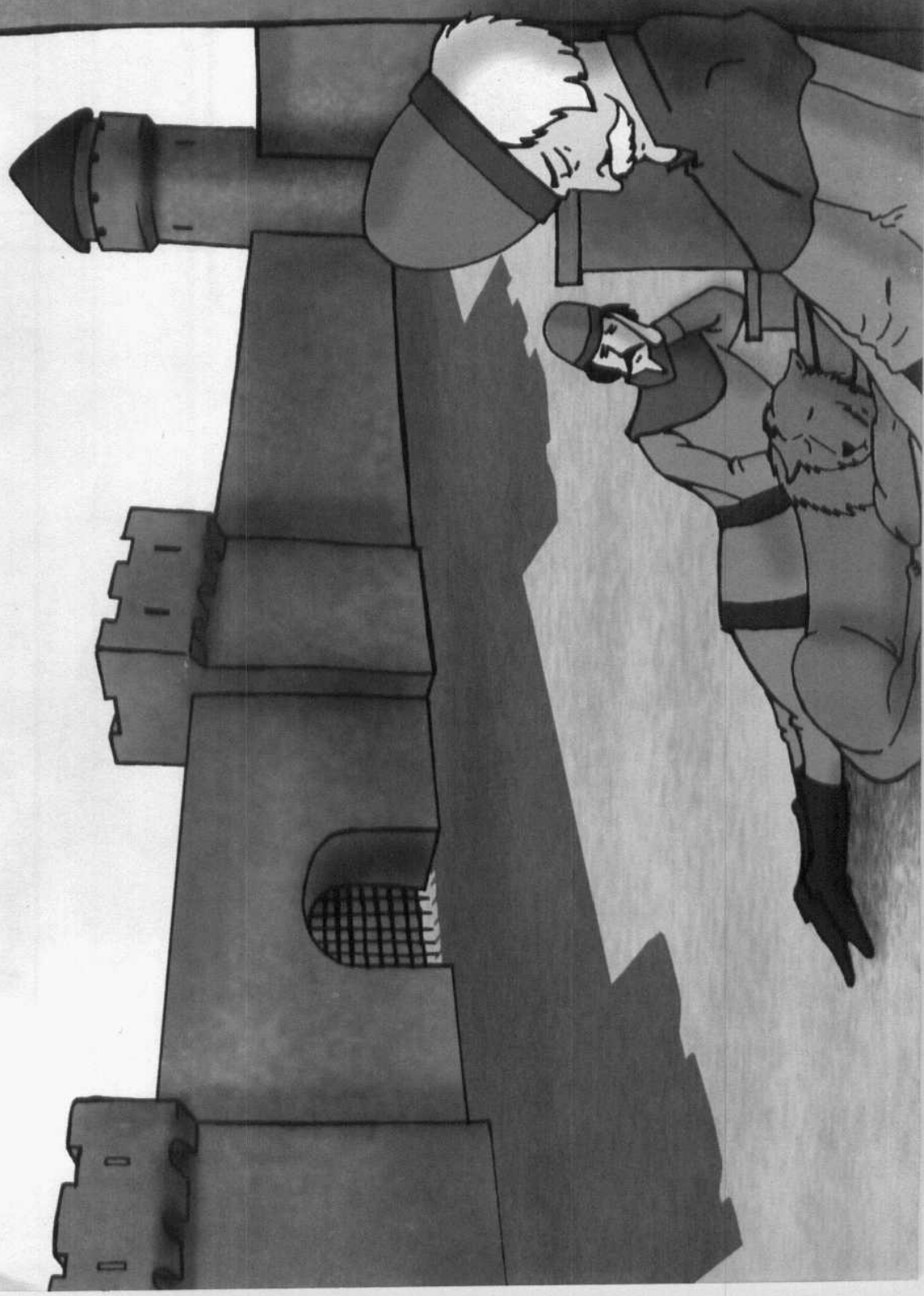


Finally, she came into a room where an old servant was spinning. "What are you doing?" she asked the servant. "I'm spinning. Haven't you seen a spindle before?" "No. Let me see it!". The servant handed the girl the spindle and she pricked herself with it. At the moment she dropped to the floor.

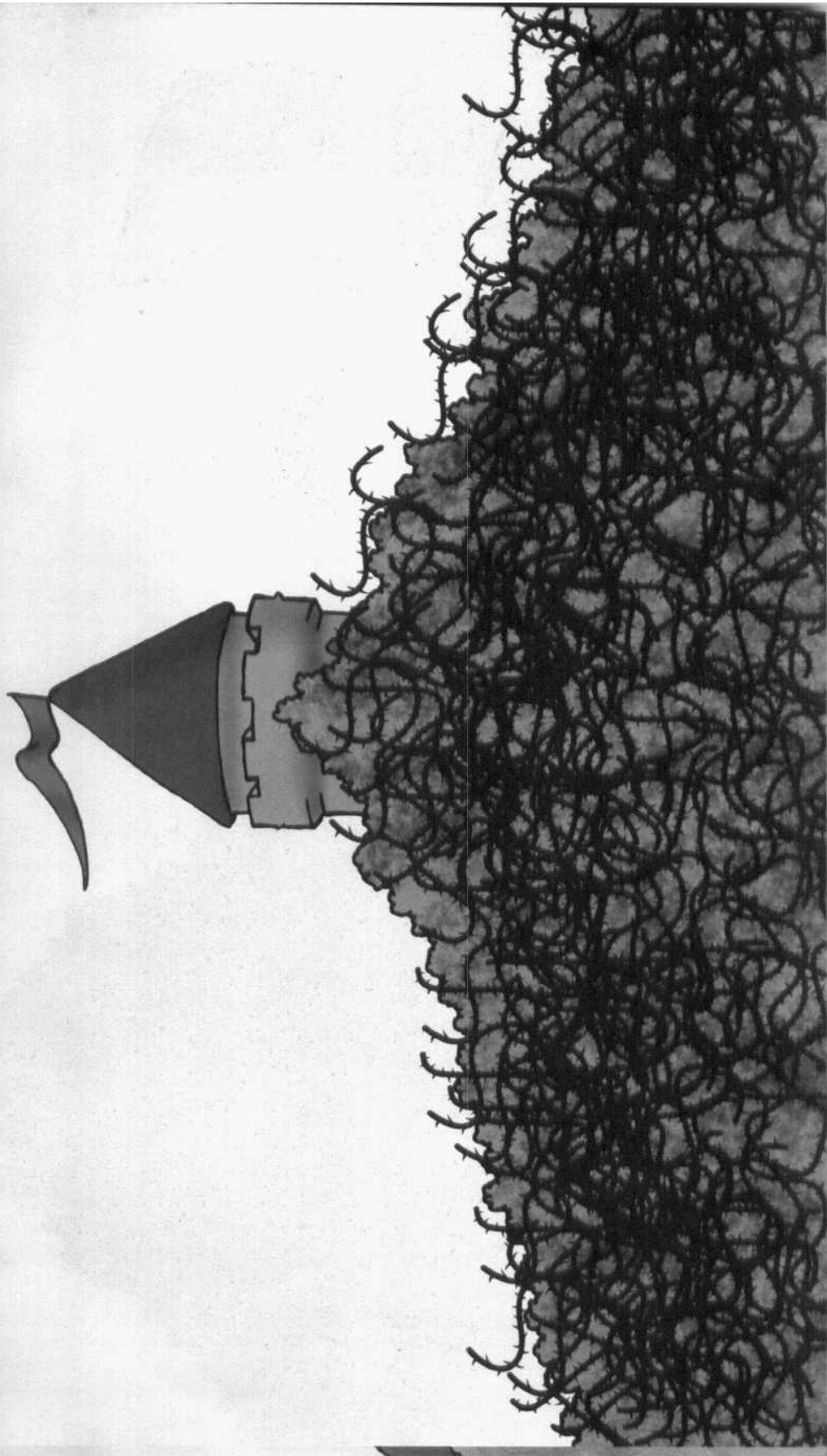




As the princess fell asleep everyone that lived in the castle - soldiers, ministers, guards, servants, ladies, pages, cooks, maids and knights all fell into a deep sleep. The castle was wrapped in complete silence.

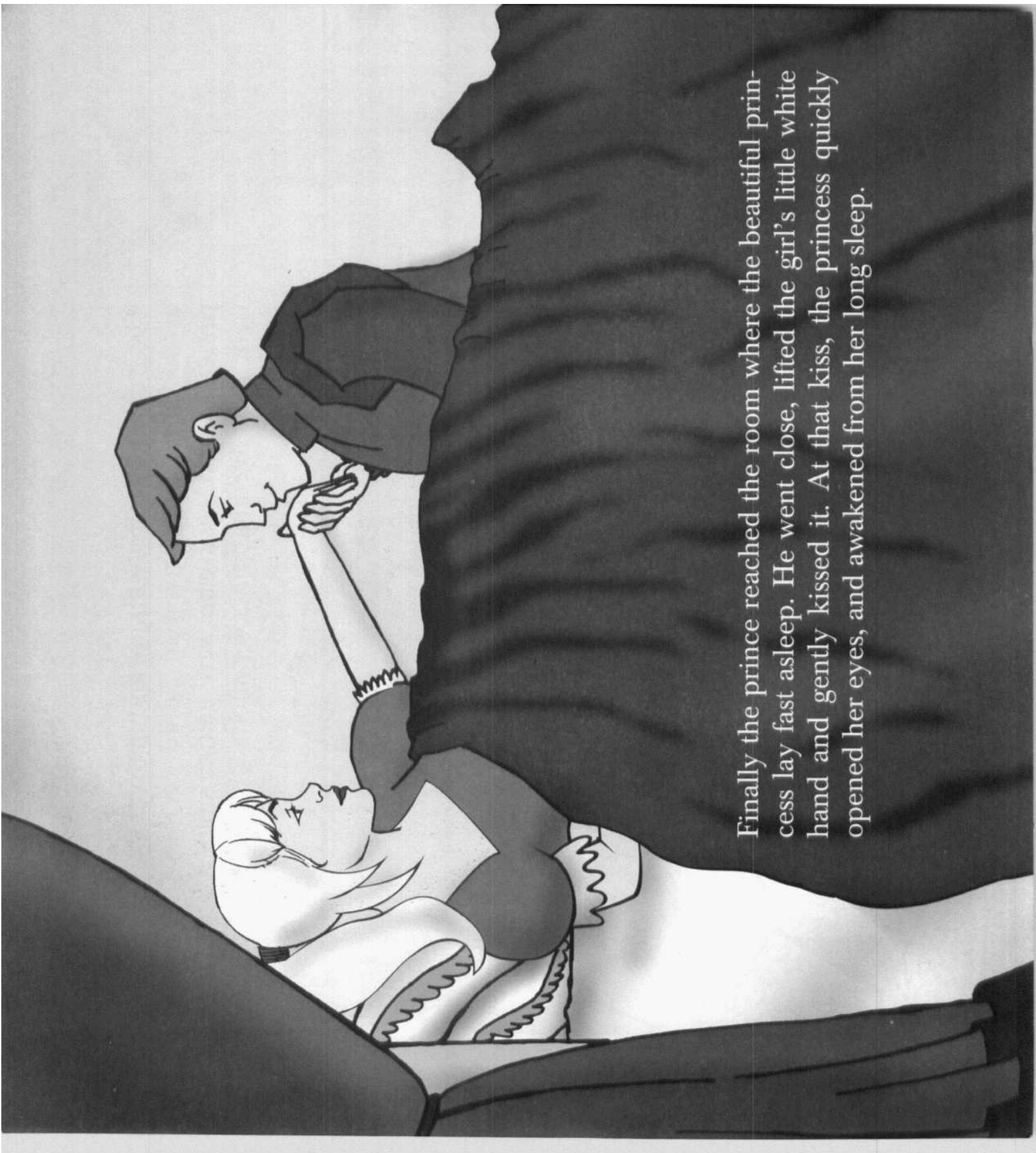


The years sped past. In the castle grounds, the trees grew tall, the bushes became thick and straggling, the grass invaded, the courtyards and the creepers spread up the walls.



In a hundred years, a dense forest grew up and a prince came into the kingdom. On hearing the princess' story he tried to reach her. He went into the castle.





Finally the prince reached the room where the beautiful princess lay fast asleep. He went close, lifted the girl's little white hand and gently kissed it. At that kiss, the princess quickly opened her eyes, and awakened from her long sleep.

The castle now rang with joy and happiness at the great party given in honor of the prince and princess, who were getting married. They lived happily ever after.

